

South Dakota

OCTOBER CROP REPORT

News Release

October 8, 1999

PRODUCTION MAINLY STEADY FROM PREVIOUS FORECAST

SIoux FALLS, October 8, 1999 -- The South Dakota October 1 production forecast for soybeans, sorghum, and hay remains unchanged from the previous forecast, according to the USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. The exception was corn which increased 5 percent because of a yield increase of 5 bushels.

Soybean production is forecast at 135.10 million bushels, unchanged from September but 2 percent above 1998's revised record of 132.60 million bushels. Yield, at 35.0 bushels per acre, is also unchanged from the previous forecast. Harvested acres, at 3.86 million, are up 13 percent from last year.

Corn production, at 357.50 million bushels, is up 5 percent from last month but down 17 percent from last year's record. Yield is forecast at 110.0 bushels per acre, up 5 bushels from the September forecast. Acres harvested for grain, at 3.25 million, are down 8 percent from last year.

Sorghum production is forecast at 6.38 million bushels, unchanged from last month but 36 percent below 1998. Yield, at 58.0 bushels per acre, is also unchanged from the previous forecast. Grain sorghum harvested acres, at 110,000, are down 21 percent from last year.

All sunflower production is forecast at 1,371.75 million pounds, down 9 percent from last year. The yield, at 1,550.0 pounds per acre, is down 5 percent from 1998. Harvested acres, at 885,000, are down 4 percent from last year.

All hay production is forecast at 9.64 million tons, unchanged from the August forecast but up 18 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the highest production on record, surpassing 1986's record of 9.33 million tons. The yield, at 2.3 tons per acre, is also unchanged from August. Harvested acres, at 4.20 million, are up 5 percent from last year. Alfalfa, with a forecasted production of 6.75 million tons, has a yield of 2.7 tons per acre and 2.50 million acres harvested. Other hay, with a forecasted production of 2.89 million tons, has a yield of 1.7 tons per acre and 1.70 million acres harvested.

*For more information contact
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